UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana
October 13, 1967

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ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS
NOVEMBER 22, 1967

Layton Patrick Martens, former roommate of David Ferrie, who has been indicted by the Orleans Parish Grand Jury for perjury appeared at the New Orleans Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on October 10, 1967, and volunteered the following information:

Martens stated that Jim Garrison, District Attorney for Orleans Parish, claimed to have Guy Bannister's files. Bannister, who operated a private detective agency in New Orleans, died around 1963. Martens commented that Garrison actually has only about 20 percent of Bannister's files and the other 80 percent are in the hands of a former employee of Bannister. Martens does not know the identity of this person, but stated that Alvin Beauboeuf, an acquaintance of Martens and an associate of Ferrie, knows this person. Martens believes there may be valuable information contained in these files and commented that Garrison only obtained what was left behind when the files were removed from Bannister's residence.

Martens stated that Ferrie once worked for G. Wray Gill. Gill is Carlos Marcello's attorney. Bannister, an acquaintance of Ferrie, did some investigative work for Marcello. Marcello reportedly did not like Ferrie. When Ferrie left Gill's employ he went into the gas station business which was allegedly financed by Marcello. Martens believes Marcello was coerced into financing this business because Ferrie had obtained incriminating information from Gill's files against Marcello. Martens advised that Ferrie had shown him birth certificates smuggled out of Guatemala for Carlos Marcello when Ferrie was a pilot.

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Ferrie introduced one Morris Brownlee to Gill. Brownlee, an associate of Ferrie and also an investigator for Gill, went through Gills' files for the purpose of gathering information regarding Marcello which would help keep Ferrie in Gill's employ.

Martens commented that due to the above, he believes that Ferrie and Brownlee were pressuring Marcello; however, he added that this was supposition on his part.

Martens believes Brownlee has furnished information to Garrison in connection with Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, and for this reason Brownlee has not been subpoenaed. Martens also commented that Garrison has a "trumped-up" narcotics charge which he is holding over Brownlee's head so that Brownlee will not furnish any information to other interested agencies. Brownlee is believed to be living in Middletown, Ohio, and is employed there as a pipe fitter. Martens described him as a white male, about 28 years of age, slender boney build, balding, dark hair and eyes and intelligent.

Martens observed that the people involved in the Garrison investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, fear Garrison and do not trust him. He added that a noted psychiatrist in the South, whom he did not identify, had commented that it would not take much to push Garrison to suicide. The psychiatrist mentioned that Garrison was paranoid. Martens advised that Garrison was presently seeing a psychiatrist, but does not know the identity of this person or the length of time he has been seeing him.